

Abstract

Purification of caprolactam

- 5 A process for removing high boilers from crude caprolactam which comprises high boilers, caprolactam and in some cases low boilers, and which has been obtained by
 - a) reacting 6-aminocapronitrile with water to give a reaction mixture
- 10 b) removing ammonia and unconverted water from the reaction mixture to obtain crude caprolactam,
 - which comprises
- 15 c) feeding the crude caprolactam to a distillation apparatus to obtain a first substream via the top as a product and a second substream via the bottom,
 - by setting the pressure in the distillation in such a way that the bottom temperature does not go below 170°C, and
- 20 adjusting the second substream in such a way that the caprolactam content of the second substream is not less than 10% by weight, based on the entire second substream.